

It is well known that New Mexico is home to many diverse energy resources and has long been a leader in energy production. Unfortunately, America still relies heavily on foreign oil to meet its energy demands, and this dependence compromises the security and economic vitality of our nation. High energy costs are making it harder for families to make ends meet. Research has also confirmed that green house gas emissions are polluting our air, contributing to global warming, harming our treasured lands and hurting our economic sustainability. We need to become more energy independent, lower energy costs for our families and build a clean energy economy in New Mexico that can create new jobs in our state.

As the chairman of the Public Regulation Commission, Ben worked to increase our energy independence and move New Mexico toward a clean energy future. Under Ben's leadership, the Public Regulation Commission implemented an increase in the percentage of renewable energy that utilities must supply, making New Mexico's standards some of the highest in the nation. By 2015, 15 percent of electricity that PNM and other state utilities supply must come from renewable sources, such as solar and wind, and by 2020 the percentage increases to 20 percent. He'll continue to work to decrease our dependence on foreign oil and make New Mexico a leader in a new, clean energy economy.

Ben is committed to a clean energy future that will eliminate America's dependence on foreign oil and produce affordable, sustainable energy. Ben believes that we are headed toward a green economy, an economy where homes and buildings are designed to meet new energy efficiency standards and our vehicles run on clean transportation fuels. Ben also believes that investment in energy development from renewable sources like solar and wind will contribute to the growing green economy and bring jobs home to New Mexico. Ben is working hard to make sure that New Mexico is included and engaged as our country fundamentally changes the way we create and use energy. He believes that New Mexico is well-positioned to be a leader in wind and solar energy development, and he is committed to supporting comprehensive energy legislation that is environmentally responsible and invests in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and worker training for the jobs of the future.

[Read more about building a clean energy economy in New Mexico](#) .